

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 18, 2006 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 5, 12 and 16 are amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. Applicant is grateful for the courtesies extended to the Applicant's representative during the April 5, 2006 telephone interview. Applicant's summary of the interview is incorporated in the following remarks. Claims 1-7 and 12-18 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7 and 12-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent Number 6,236,657 to Andersson et al. (Andersson). Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in any of the pending claims.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-4 depend, recites a mobile communication system comprising at least one mobile communication network, at least one service center for point-to-multipoint services, and one or more network nodes to which a point-to-multipoint service is transmitted to cells within the service area of the network node. The system includes defining means for defining geographical destination areas of the point-to-multipoint service, each geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service being indicated in the system as a predetermined logical name included in a

service request of the point-to-multipoint service wherein a destination area includes cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes. The system further includes memory means for mapping each logical name corresponding to a geographical destination area at the point-to-multipoint service to one or more network element addresses of the system. The system further includes that the at least one service center is arranged to inquire, in response to a received service request, from the memory means the addresses of the network elements corresponding to a logical name in the received service request, and further to transmit the point-to-multipoint service via the network elements to cells belonging to the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service.

Claim 5, from which claims 6 and 7 depend, recites a method for transmitting a point-to-multipoint service of a mobile communication system to geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service. The mobile communication system includes at least one mobile communication network, at least one service center for point-to-multipoint services and at least one network node through which the point-to-multipoint service is transmitted to cells within its service area. The method further includes defining logical names for geographical destination areas of the point to multipoint service where a destination area includes cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes. The method further includes maintaining an address list for each logical name in the mobile communication system, the address list being used for mapping the defined logical names to one or more network element addresses of

the system. The method further includes receiving a service request at a full service center including a logical name and mapping the logical name by means of the address list to one or more network element addresses belonging to the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service. Further, the method includes transmitting the service via the network elements to cells within the service area.

Claim 12, from which 13-15 depend, recites an area register which forms part of a mobile communication system including at least one network, the network including a service center for point-to-multipoint services for transmitting a point-to-multipoint service to a geographical destination area indicated in a service request. The destination area being indicated as logical name included in the service request. The area register includes a list of logical names corresponding to geographical destination areas of the point-to-multipoint service for at least one service center where a destination area includes cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes, and at least one network element address list of the system corresponding to each logical name in order to allow a logical name to be mapped to at least one system network element address within the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service. The area register further includes processing means for receiving inquiries concerning the logical names and for replying to the inquiries.

Claim 16, from which claims 17 and 18 depend, recites a service center for transmitting point-to-multipoint services in a mobile communication system to a geographical destination area of the service. The service center includes a reception

means for receiving a service request including a logical name indicating a destination area of the point-to-multipoint service that includes cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes. The service center further includes an inquiry means for mapping the logical name given in the service request to at least one network element address of the system and a transmission means for transmitting the service to cells belonging to the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service via each network element.

As will be discussed below, Andersson fails to disclose or suggest the elements of any of the presently pending claims. As discussed during the April 5, 2006 telephone interview, the present invention is directed to providing point-to-multipoint services in a cellular network. This feature is described in the specification and recited in the pending claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims recite features that are neither disclosed nor suggested in any of the cited references.

Andersson is directed to a method of establishing point-to-multipoint connections and multipoint to point connections. Program distribution to several subscribers uses network resources in common along common call routes. A list of potential program distribution points is created and a running index is associated with each one of the distribution points. Before a connection is set up to a subscriber the list is examined and a distribution point is selected from which a point-to-point connection is set up to the subscriber.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest at least the feature of a defining means for defining geographical destination areas of the point-to-multipoint service, each geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service being indicated in the system as a predetermined logical name included in a service request of the point-to-multipoint service wherein a destination area includes cells within the service area of at least two different network nodes, as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 5, 12, and 16 (underline added). On the other hand, as discussed during the April 5, 2006 interview, Andersson does not mention, disclose or suggest any utilization in a cellular network. Thus, Andersson fails to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in any of the pending claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that because claims 2-4, 6-7, 13-15 and 17-18 depend from claims 1, 5, 12 and 16 respectively, these claims are allowable at least for the same reasons as claims 1, 5, 12 and 16, as well as for the additional features recited in these dependent claims.

Based at least on the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claims 1-7 and 12-18. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-7 and 12-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests that each of claims 1-7 and 12-18 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time
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